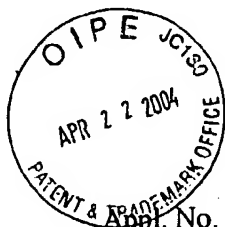


04-26-03



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No. : 10/613,374 Confirmation No. 7181
Applicants : S. Datta et al.
Filed : July 3, 2003
TC/A.U. : 1711
Examiner : Nathan M. Nutter

Docket No. : 1998B037A/2
Customer No. : 1473

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

New York, New York 10020
April 22, 2004

AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of March 31, 2004, and to provoke two

interferences – one with Stevens et al. U.S. patent application no. 10/289,122, and one with Tau

et al. U.S. patent application no. 10/289,168 – please amend the above-identified application as

follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

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